

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01323 221601Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1323

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU
SUBJECT: CYPRUS MISSING PERSONS

REF: NICOSIA 0433

1. THIS TELEGRAM IS A SUMMARY OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EFFORT TO ESTABLISH AN INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE ON MISSING PERSONS.
2. BEGINNING IN FEBRUARY, ACTING SRSG GORGE BEGAN TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF A COMPROMISE ON THE QUESTION OF DECISION MAKING WITH "TFSC PRESIDENT" DENKTASH, TURKISH AMBASSADOR ONHON AND GREEK CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR TASSOS PAPADOPOULOS. GORGE RAISED THE ISSUE WITH EACH MAN SEVERAL TIMES. THESE DISCUSSIONS DID NOT PROGRESS UNTIL EARLY APRIL WHEN A VISIT BY ICRC REPRESENTATIVE LIX SIMONIUS GAVE GORGE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS HOW ICRC PLANNED TO INSTRUCT ITS REPRESENTATIVE IF COMMITTEE WERE FORMED. MISS SIMONIUS MADE IT CLEAR TO GORGE THAT ICRC COULD SEE NO SITUATION IN WHICH ITS REPRESENTATIVE WOULD VOTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01323 221601Z

3. BASED ON HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH MISS SIMONIUS GORGE RAISED THE MATTER AGAIN WITH DENKTASH AND POINTED OUT THAT ICRC WOULD NOT VOTE. DENKTASH SAID HE THOUGHT HE COULD LIVE WITH A FORMULATION IN THE GUIDELINES SOMETHING LIKE 'IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE, WEIGHT WILL BE GIVEN TO THE OPINION OF ICRC WHICH WILL NOT BE

DISREGARDED." GORGE PRESENTED THIS FORMUAL TO PAPADOPoulos WHO STALLED FOR SOME TIME BEFORE RESPONDING.

4. THE QUESTION BECAME ACTIVE AGAIN WHEN UNSYG WALDHEIM VISITED CYPRUS ON APRIL 19. DURING THAT VISIT WALDHEIM MET WITH MISSING PERSONS REPRESENTATIVES AND DISCUSSED THE QUESTION WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU AND DENKTASH. BOTH INDICATED THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO TRY AGAIN TO FORM THE COMMITTEE. WALDHEIM TASKED GORGE TO FOLLOW UP WITH BOTH COMMUNITIES. GORGE SUBSEQUENTLY SMOKED A RESPONSE TO NEW DENKTASH FORMULA OUT OF GREEK CYPRIOTS IN EARLY MAY. PAPADOPULOS SAID GOC COULD LIVE WITH A FORMULATION THAT "THE OPINION OF ICRC WILL PREVAIL" NOTING THAT THIS IS CLOSE TO DENKTASH'S "...THE OPINION OF ICRC...WILL NOT BE DIS-REGARDED." HOWEVER, PAPADOPoulos SAID, ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF THE FORMERLY AGREED GUIDELINES AND SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE REVIEWED BEFORE GOC COULD GIVE FINAL APPROVAL. (GORGE -- PLEASE PROTECT ON THIS POINT -- BELIEVES THAT GREEK CYPRIOT AUTHORITIES DO NOT WANT EARLY ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MISSING PERSONS COMMITTEE BECAUSE IT COULD BE SEEN AS PROGRESS ON CYPRUS AND - MIGHT EFFECT THE GOC CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT LIFTING OF U.S. ARMS EMBARGO ON TURKEY.)

5. IN ANY CASE DENKTASH'S NEW LANGUAGE AND PAPADOPULOS' REPLY TURNED OUT TO BE HIGH POINT IN THE CURRENT EFFORT.
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PAGE 03 NICOSI 01323 221601Z

DENKTASH HAS NOT BEEN IN CYPRUS FOR SEVERAL WEEKS SO TURKISH CYPRIOTS CANNOT MOVE. IN NEW SRSG GALINDO-POHL'S INITIAL CONTACTS WITH TURKISH AMBASSADOR LATTER MADE IT CLEAR THAT TURKEY DOES NOT WANT EARLY ACTION ON THE FORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU AND TASSOS PAPADOPoulos WERE EQUALLY NEGATIVE IN THEIR FIRST MEETING WITH GALINDO-POHL.

6. UNSYG WILL UNDOUBTEDLY RAISE THE QUESTION OF MISSING PERSONS WITH ALL PARTIES WHEN HE MEETS THEM LATER THIS MONTH AND IN JUNE BUT GALINDO-POHL AND GORGE SEE LITTLE PROSPECT FOR CHANGE IN STATUS QUO. THEY WILL NOT PRESS THE ISSUE HERE UNTIL AFTER WALDHEIM SEES KYPRIANOU AND DENKTASH.

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